

Al --Separation unit 2 is a centrifuge chamber with an annular channel 4 having an inlet 5 for the blood to be processed and an outlet 6 for the concentrated cell fraction, e.g., an erythrocyte concentrate. Such a centrifuge chamber is described in detail in U.S. Patent No. 5,607,830, for example, which is incorporated herein by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2 and 6 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 as follows:

Sub C1 A2 1. (amended) A device for autologous blood transfusion comprising:

an autotransfusion set including a separation unit for concentrating a cell fraction, a tubing system for providing a connection to a blood supply, and a filter means for eliminating at least one of leukocytes and tumor cells, the tubing system including a blood supply line leading to the separation unit for supplying blood to be processed, and a return line leading away from the separation unit for supplying the concentrated cell fraction, wherein the filter means is arranged in the blood supply line of the tubing system; and

a centrifuge unit, the separation unit of the autotransfusion set being rotatably mounted to the centrifuge unit.

Sub C1 A3 3. (amended) The device of claim 1, wherein the autotransfusion set further includes a blood collecting tank having an inlet and an outlet, the blood supply line includes a first section connected to the inlet of the collecting tank and a second section connected to the outlet of the collecting tank, and the filter means is arranged in the collecting tank.

Sub
C1
A4

5. (amended) An autotransfusion set for a device for autologous blood transfusion comprising:

a separation unit for concentrating a cell fraction;

a tubing system including a blood supply line leading to the separation unit for supplying blood to be processed, and a blood return line leading away from the separation unit for supplying the concentrated cell fraction, and

filter means for eliminating at least one of leukocytes and tumor cells, wherein the filter means is arranged in the blood supply line of the tubing system.

Sub
C1
A5

7. (amended) The autotransfusion set of claim 5, wherein the tubing system further includes a blood collecting tank having an inlet and an outlet, the blood supply line includes a first section connected to the inlet of the collecting tank and a second section connected to the outlet of the collecting tank, and the filter means is arranged in the collecting tank.

Sub
C1
A6

9. (amended) A method of autologous blood transfusion comprising the steps of:

collecting a quantity of blood from a patient;

passing the blood through a blood supply line including a filter;

passing the blood through the filter to eliminate at least one of leukocytes and tumor cells;

centrifuging the filtered blood in order to concentrate a cell fraction, and

returning the concentrated cell fraction to the patient.